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Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
20–28 February 2018

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Luke **Tang** (Singapore)

II. Maintenance of international peace and security

E. Consideration of the working paper submitted by Cuba on the strengthening of the role of the Organization and enhancing its effectiveness: adoption of recommendations

1. The working paper entitled "Strengthening of the role of the Organization and enhancing its effectiveness: adoption of recommendations", submitted by Cuba at the 2012 session of the Special Committee (A/67/33, annex), was referred to during the general exchange of views held at the 287th and 288th meetings of the Special Committee, on 20 February 2018, and was considered at the 1st meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 21 February 2018.

2. During the general exchange of views, the sponsor delegation stressed that the working paper remained valid and invited delegations to share their views on it. Several delegations expressed their support for the proposal. It was suggested that the issue of reforming the Charter be brought before the International Law Commission. Other delegations were of the opinion that the Special Committee should not consider topics that would be duplicative of or inconsistent with the roles of the principal organs of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter.

3. During the 1st meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, the sponsor delegation asserted that the Special Committee was the appropriate forum for a discussion on reform of the Charter, especially in the light of the ongoing reform process within the Organization, and reiterated that the proposal was aimed at making the Organization more democratic and representative. It encouraged delegations to submit suggestions with a view to reaching consensus on the working paper, and proposed establishing an ad hoc subsidiary body to consider the issue further.

4. Several delegations expressed support for the proposal. It was noted that the aim of the working paper was to achieve the delicate balance envisaged in the Charter between the mandates of all the principal organs of the United Nations and that the working paper should therefore remain on the agenda of the Special Committee.

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